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# ALCOHOL POLICY

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## **1. THE PURPOSE**

The Purpose of developing an alcohol policy is to minimise the harm associated with the inappropriate use of alcohol. Workplaces, sporting clubs and licensed venues are specific settings where the implementation of an alcohol policy may help with the management of problems associated with harmful alcohol consumption.

## **2. THE RATIONALE**

Increasingly, alarming research suggests that community-based sports clubs contribute to alcohol problems by accepting and promoting excessive drinking. It is important that sports clubs provide appropriate role models for young people. A 1999 study found that 51% of member drinkers at sports clubs are consuming alcohol at harmful or hazardous levels. The BUA acknowledges its leadership role in the sport of football and aims to be a good role model. The BUA desires to create a safer family and community environment. The BUA believes that such an environment and image will be advantageous in attracting new members and positively promoting our sport and the club to the community.

## **3. WHO IS AFFECTED BY THIS POLICY**

The policy applies to all members, administrators, officials, coaches, visitors and volunteers of the Bendigo Umpires Association.

## **4. SERVING ALCOHOL**

Alcohol will be served according to the requirements of the club's liquor licence and in accordance with the safety and wellbeing of patrons. BUA will ensure that the liquor licence is in order and clearly displayed at the bar. Only Responsible Serving of Alcohol (RSA) trained persons will be permitted to serve alcohol and a list of RSA course trained people will be displayed near the bar. The BUA will discourage excessive or rapid consumption of alcohol. Alcoholic drinks will be served in standard drink measures. BUA facilities and functions will always enforce the Smoke Free Policy and the club will not sell cigarettes or tobacco products.

## **5. UNDERAGE DRINKING**

Alcohol will not be served to or by people under 18 years of age. Proof of age may be needed before alcohol is served. Only appropriate photographic ID will be accepted.

## **6. LOW-ALCOHOL AND ALCOHOL-FREE DRINKS**

The Club will make available low alcohol and alcohol-free alternatives. Tap water will be free from the bar.

## **7. PROVISION OF FOOD**

When alcohol is being served a range of light snacks will be made available.

## **8. INTOXICATED PATRONS AND NON-COMPLIANCE**

Alcohol will not be served to any person who is intoxicated. Servers will follow procedures, provided in their training by the Liquor Licensing Commission, for dealing with and refusing alcohol to intoxicated patrons. All BUA board members will enforce the alcohol management policy and any non-compliance, particularly in regard to the Liquor Control Reform Act, will be handled by explaining the club policy to the person(s) concerned, including identification of the section of policy not being complied with. If continued non-compliance occurs then at least two board members will use their discretion as to the action taken, which may include asking the person(s) to leave the premises. Intoxicated and non-compliant patrons will be asked to leave the club. The club will encourage safe transport options.

## **9. ALCOHOL ON MATCH DAYS**

The bringing of packaged alcohol into the ground and/or consumption of alcohol at matches by any officiating BUA member is strictly prohibited until after all games have finished.

## **10. ALCOHOL AT TRAINING**

Alcohol will not be served during official training sessions.

## **11. SUMMER TRAINING CAMP**

No alcohol will be permitted at the Pre-season Training Camp.

## **12. DESIGNATED DRIVER**

No member appointed as a Car Driver is permitted to consume alcohol until after their driving task is completed.

## **13. PROMOTING THE RESPONSIBLE USE OF ALCOHOL**

The club will actively demonstrate its attitude relating to the responsible use of alcohol. The club will not advertise, promote or serve alcohol at junior only events or activities. The club will educate club members and supporters about the alcohol policy. The club will pursue non-alcohol sponsorship and revenue sources. The club will provide alcohol-free social events for young people and families. Alcohol advertising will only appear at the bar and will include standard drink information and responsible drinking posters. The club will not promote alcohol through 'cheap drink' strategies, such as happy hours.

## **14. POLICY PROMOTION**

The BUA recognises the importance of educating club members in the benefits of implementing a Responsible Alcohol Policy. Board members, coaches and influential members will positively promote the policy.

## **15. POLICY REVIEW**

Reviewing the policy on an annual basis within board meetings, will ensure that the policy remains current and practical.